Claims

1. (amended) A method for tracking and recording metric parameters <u>comprising installed time, hours of use, operating conditions, numbers of uses, and replacement history for a replaceable component of an air, land, or sea vehicle</u>~~in a product item~~ comprising the steps of:

   (a)   positioning an Electrically Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory (EEPROM) Chip in the <u>replaceable component or said air, land, or sea vehicle</u>~~item~~;

   (b)   automatically tracking and recording all <u>of said</u> parameters <u>comprising installed time, hours of use, operating conditions, numbers of uses, and replacement history</u> in the EEPROM; and

   (c)   reading said parameters <u>comprising installed time, hours of use, operating conditions, numbers of uses, and replacement history</u> recorded in step (b) into a database<u>, whereby data relating to said replaceable component is automatically tracked, thus resulting in reliability data for said replaceable component</u>.